



# Drought Information Statement for West Central & Southwest Florida

Valid September 14, 2023

Issued By: WFO Tampa Bay

Contact Information: [sr-tbw.webmaster@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-tbw.webmaster@noaa.gov)

- This product will be updated by Sep 23, 2023 or sooner if drought conditions change significantly.
- Please see all currently available products at <https://drought.gov/drought-information-statements>.
- Please visit <https://www.weather.gov/tbw/DroughtInformationStatement> for previous statements.





# U.S. Drought Monitor

Link to the [latest U.S. Drought Monitor](#) for Florida

- Slight improvement over the interior thanks to rainfall from Idalia.
- Drought intensity and Extent
  - D3 (Extreme Drought): along the coast from southwest Hillsborough county south through Manatee county into central Sarasota county.
  - D2 (Severe Drought): bounded the D3 area across the southern half of Pinellas, southwestern Hillsborough, inland portions of Manatee and Sarasota counties
  - D1 (Moderate Drought): extends from southwest Pasco county to interior Manatee and Sarasota counties, south near the coast of Charlotte and Lee counties
  - D0: (Abnormally Dry): bounded the D1 area and extended into much of Charlotte and Lee counties.

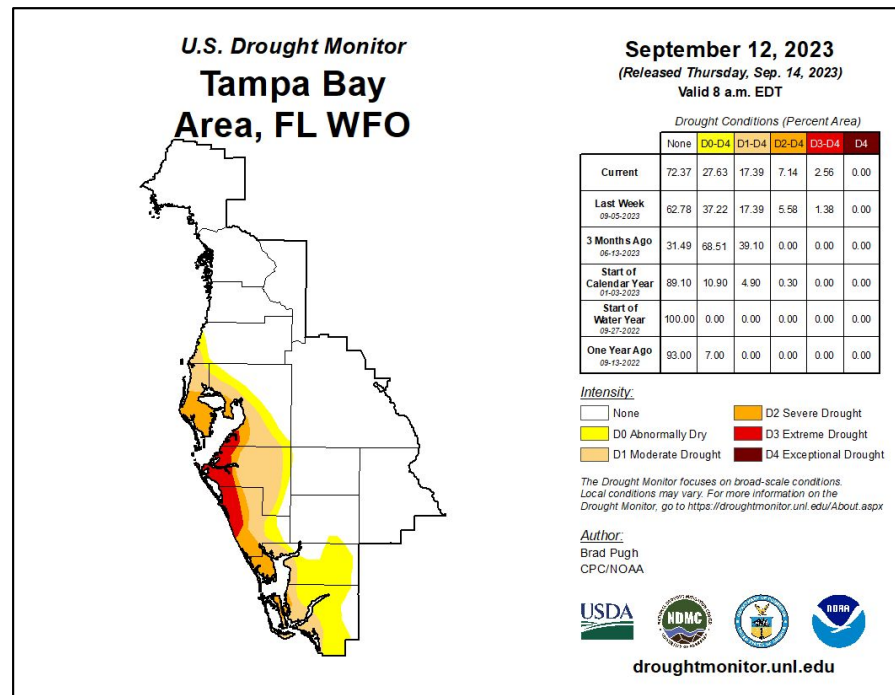


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor valid September 12th





# Recent Change in Drought Intensity

Link to the latest [4-week change map](#) for Florida

- Four Week Drought Monitor Class Change.
  - There has been some improvement in the drought conditions (green areas on map to the right) over the last few weeks, but areas near the coast of Manatee and Sarasota county are continuing to see their driest start to any year since records began.

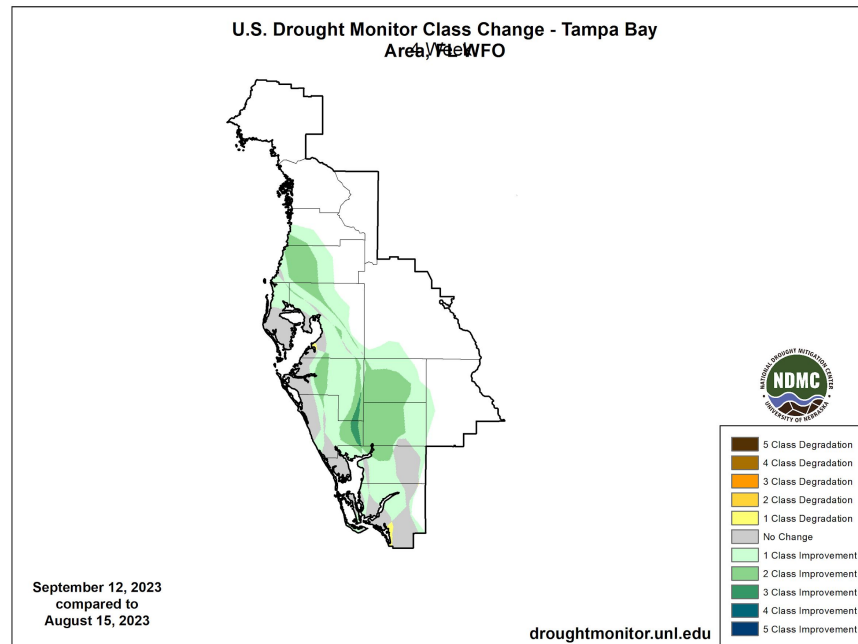


Image Caption: U.S. Drought Monitor 4-week change map valid September 12th





# Precipitation

## Table of Accumulated Rainfall (inches) for Select Locations - January 1 to September 13, 2023

The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to September 13, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
Tampa Area	TPA:	24.78	40.17	-15.39	62%
St Pete/Clearwater	PIE:	*24.92	43.50	-18.58	57%
St Petersburg Area	SPG:	24.73	37.49	-12.76	66%
<b>NWS Ruskin</b>	<b>TBW:</b>	<b>21.38</b>	<b>41.99</b>	<b>-20.61</b>	<b>51%</b>
Winter Haven Area	GIF:	38.65	37.23	+1.12	104%
<b>Sarasota-Bradenton Area</b>	<b>SRQ:</b>	<b>21.05</b>	<b>39.25</b>	<b>-18.20</b>	<b>54%</b>
Fort Myers/Page Field	FMY:	**33.11	46.07	-12.96	72%
Fort Myers/SW Intl Apt	RSW:	28.79	42.41	-13.62	68%
Chiefland 5 SE	CHIF1:	40.29	45.32	-5.03	89%
Plant City	PLCF1:	43.35	45.55	-2.20	95%
Lakeland	LLDF1:	41.23	45.31	-4.08	91%
Bradenton 5 ESE	BRAF1:	35.79	45.35	-9.56	79%
<b>Venice</b>	<b>VNCF1:</b>	<b>20.85</b>	<b>40.44</b>	<b>-19.59</b>	<b>52%</b>
Archbold Bio Stn	ACHF1:	46.11	43.28	+2.83	107%

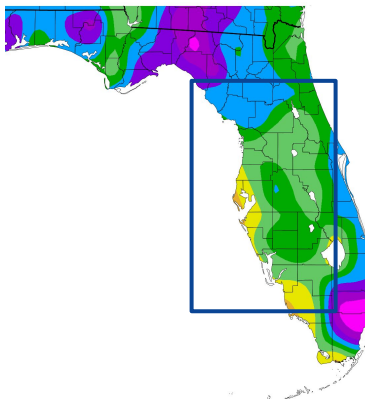
\*Rainfall missing on August 20, 2023. Radar estimate of 0.50 inches included in this total

\*\*Rainfall missing on June 2, 2023. Radar estimate of 1.90 inches included in this total

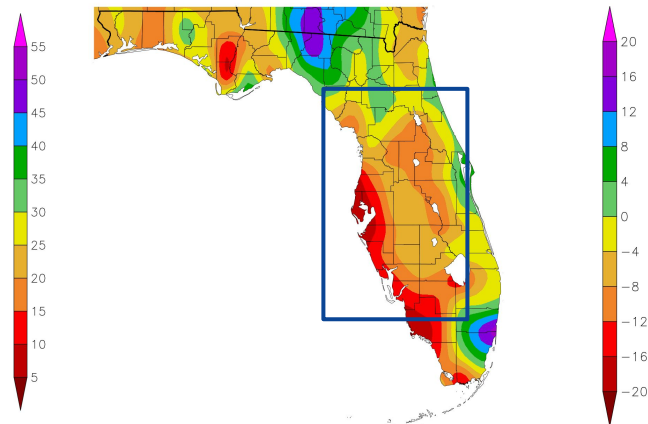
The following table gives the rainfall from January 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023:

Station	Site Id	Observed Rainfall	30 Yr Normal	Dep fm Normal	Percent of Normal
St Leo	STLF1:	34.69	39.38	-4.69	88%
Bartow	BARF1:	36.04	38.57	-2.53	93%
Mountain Lake	LWLF1:	31.35	38.36	-7.01	82%
Myakka River St Pk	MKCF1:	38.78	44.90	-6.12	86%
Wauchula 2 N	WAUF1:	25.21	38.50	-13.29	65%
Desoto City 8 SW	DSOF1:	40.15	37.87	+2.28	106%

Precipitation (in)  
1/1/2023 - 9/13/2023



Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)  
1/1/2023 - 9/13/2023



**NWS Ruskin, Sarasota-Bradenton Area and Venice are having their Driest Year-to-Date!**

Image Captions:

Left - Precipitation Amount for Florida

Right - Departure from Normal Precipitation for Florida

Data Courtesy High Plains Regional Climate Center.

Data for 2023 ending September 13, 2023



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Atmospheric Administration  
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# Summary of Impacts

Links: See/submit [Condition Monitoring Observer Reports \(CMOR\)](#) and view the [Drought Impacts Reporter](#)

## Hydrologic Impacts

- As expected, due to the dry conditions in the wake of Idalia combined with antecedent conditions prior to Idalia, main stem rivers have fallen rather quickly with a few back in the lowest 30th percentile with the remaining near climatological normal. This represents a quick retreat following a tropical system. The potential for locally heavy rain during the upcoming weekend and early next week may allow a few rivers/streams to rebound once again.

## Agricultural Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

## Fire Hazard Impacts

- There are no known impacts at this time

## Mitigation Actions

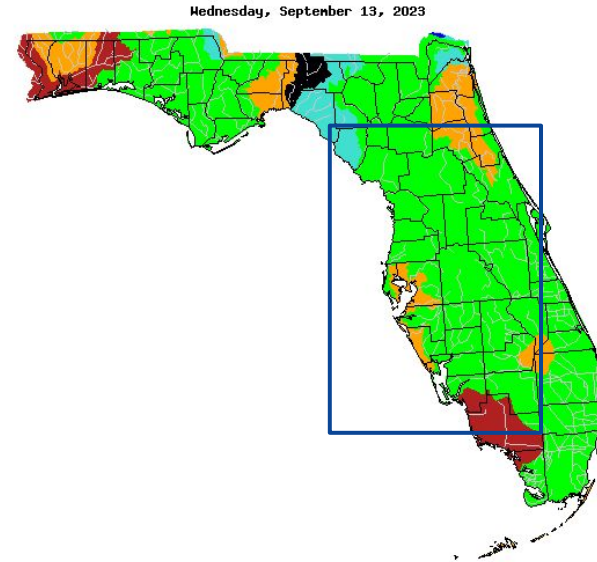
- Water conservation techniques are strongly encouraged in drought areas. Please refer to your municipality and/or water provider for mitigation information. Local water restriction ordinances may be in place.





# Hydrologic Conditions and Impacts

- Rivers continue to recede after the heavy rainfall associated with Idalia with a few rivers/streams running in the lowest 30th percentile. The remainder of the rivers and streams across west central and southwest Florida are running near climatic normals. The potential for locally heavy rain this weekend and early next week may allow a few rivers to rebound once again.



Explanation - Percentile classes							
Low	<10	10-24	25-75	76-90	>90	High	No Data
	Much below normal	Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

Image Caption: USGS 7 day average streamflow HUC map valid September 13, 2023



# Seven Day Precipitation Forecast

- More numerous showers and thunderstorms are expected over the next week with rainfall amounts generally between 1 and 1.50 inches along the west coast and up to 3 inches over the interior, with locally higher amounts possible.

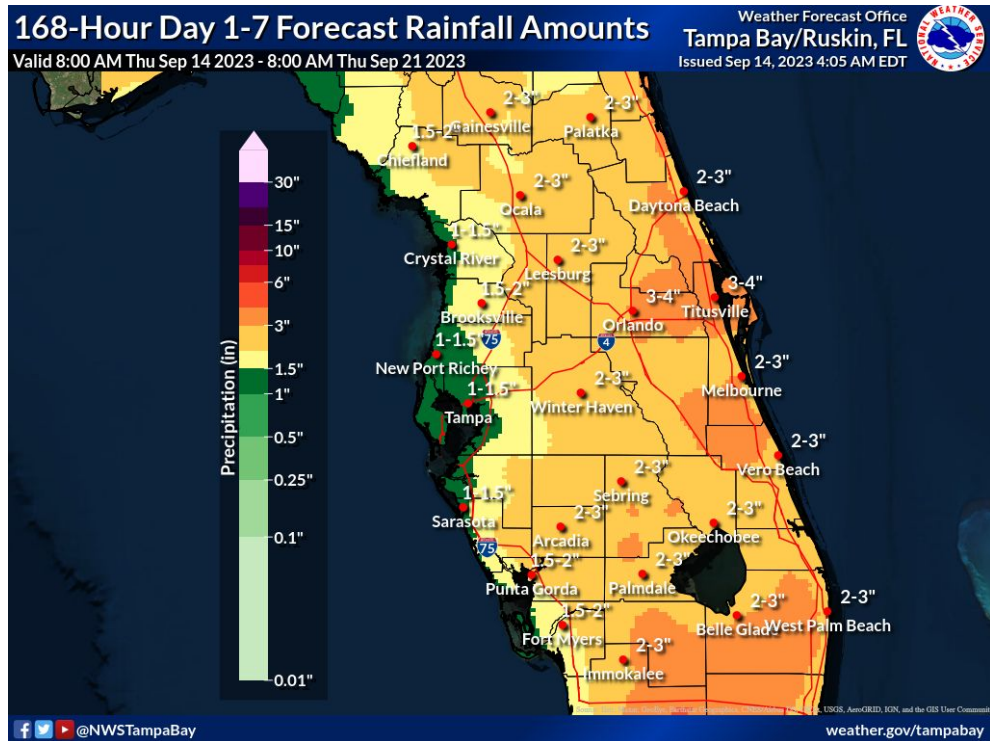


Image Caption: Weather Prediction Center [7-day precipitation forecast](#) valid 8 AM EDT Thursday September 14 to 8 AM EDT Thursday September 21





# Long-Range Monthly Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Warmer than normal temperatures are favored during the month of September, while equal chances of above, below, and near normal precipitation is outlooked for the Florida peninsula.

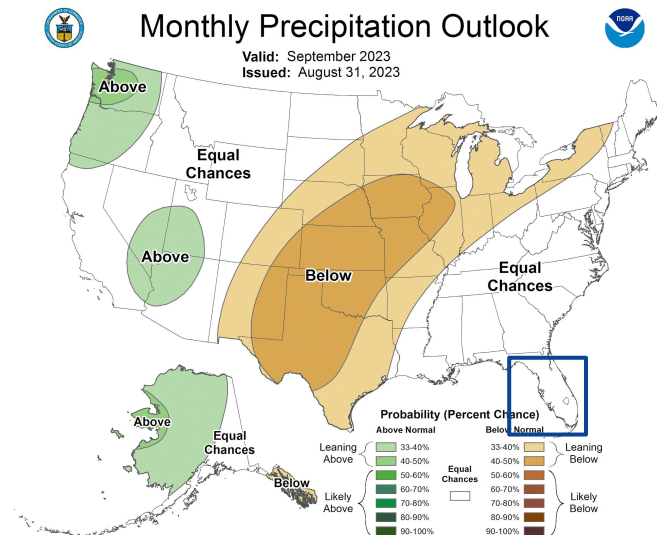
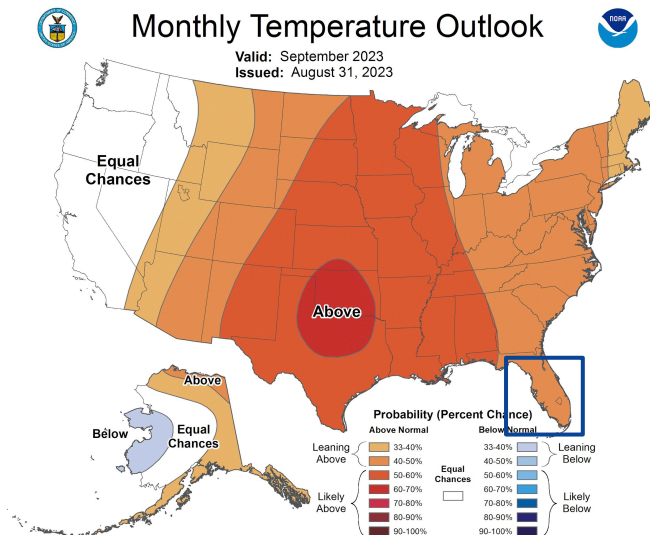


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Temperature Outlook](#).

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Monthly Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid September 2023



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# Long-Range Seasonal Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Warmer than normal temperatures are favored during the three month period of September through November while precipitation is leaning toward above normal for the Florida peninsula.

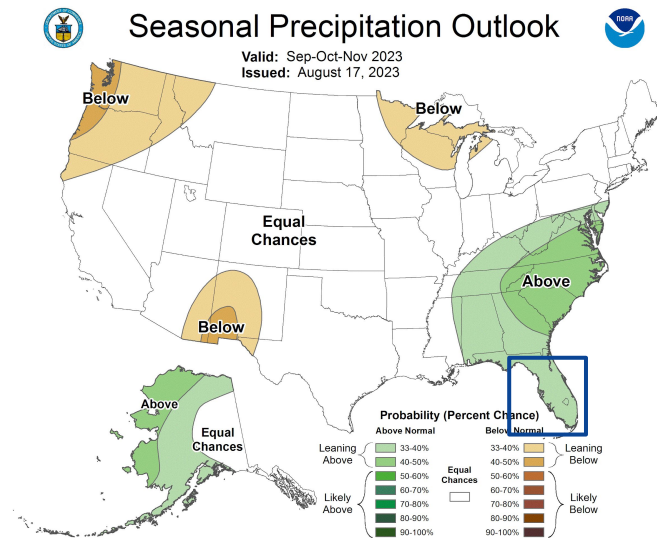
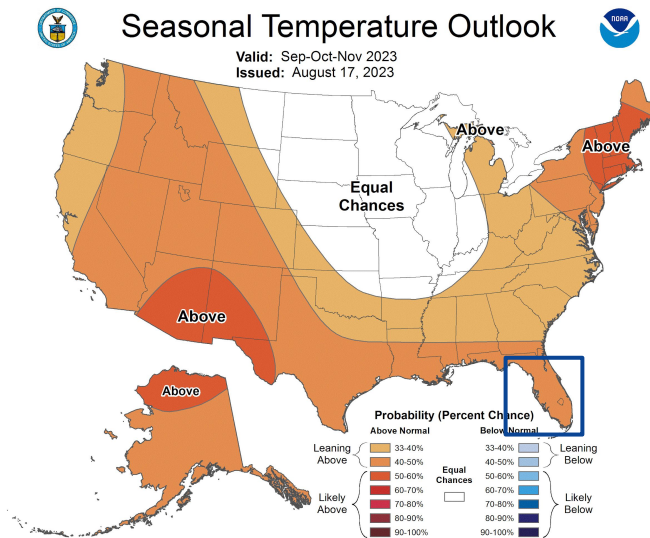


Image Captions:

Left - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Temperature Outlook](#).

Right - [Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Precipitation Outlook](#).

Valid September - November 2023



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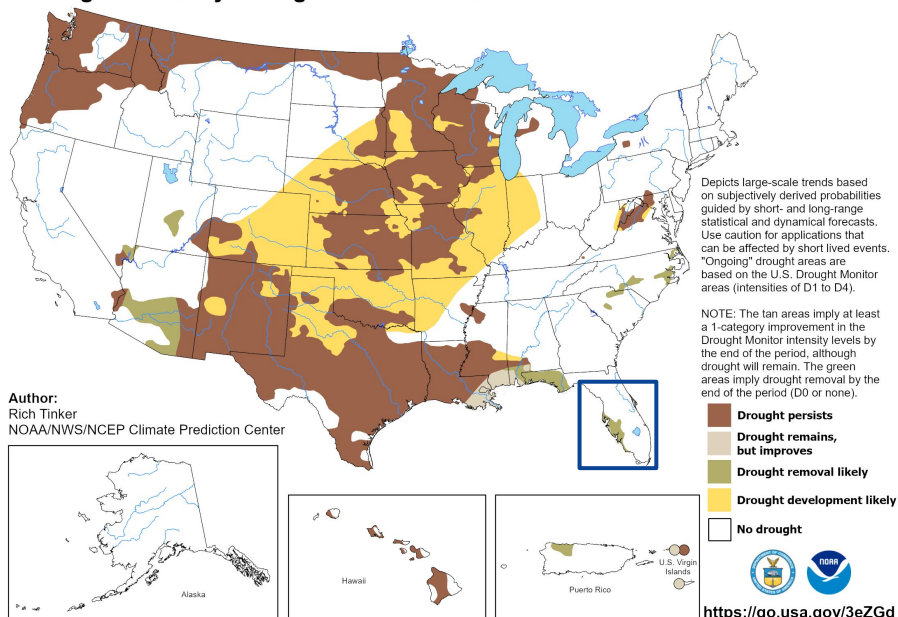
# Drought Outlook

The latest monthly and seasonal outlooks can be found on the [CPC homepage](#)

- Some improvement in the drought conditions is expected as we move through September.

## U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook Drought Tendency During the Valid Period

Valid for September 2023  
Released August 31, 2023



Links to the latest:

[Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook](#)  
[Climate Prediction Center Seasonal Drought Outlook](#)

Image Caption:

Climate Prediction Center Monthly Drought Outlook  
Released August 31, 2023 valid for September 2023



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